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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/9/06

SPONSOR Robinson LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE UNM Latin American Student Recruitment SB 427

ANALYST Hoffmann

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$150.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Senate Bill 658 and Senate Bill 415.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 427 appropriates \$150,000 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico for Latin American student recruitment programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This request was not on the list of priority projects submitted by UNM to the New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED) for review and was not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY07.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 415 appropriates \$207,000 for the same purpose as this bill.

Senate Bill 658 "RESIDENT TUITION FOR CERTAIN STUDENTS" amends Section 21-1-3 NMSA 1978 to allow Latin American citizens from countries participating the Organization of American States' educational portal to pay resident tuition rates at the state educational institutions enumerated in Article 12, Section 11 of the constitution of New Mexico.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Higher Education Department notes that in the past, because of its geographic diversity, UNM became known as the "University of the Americas." However, since September 11th, obtaining international visas has become increasingly difficult and costly. As a result, UNM's geographic diversity has steadily declined. Today, 90% of the UNM student body comes from New Mexico communities. Funding from this bill would help UNM to build back its geographic diversity targeting Mexico and Latin American countries.

CH/yr